

# the Alembic



## Chair's Corner

Well, I'm looking at the weekend weather reports as I write this and see that spring may still be holding off for a bit. Hopefully we'll all dig out o.k. I'm looking forward to precipitation I don't have to shovel! While the weather was warm and pleasant, your executive committee met to review several items. I'd like to provide updates on two of these items.

First, we discussed the need for a bylaw review for our section. It has been about fifteen to twenty years since the last review was performed. Some areas, especially concerning elections of officers, need updating. Any changes need to be reviewed and approved by the national organization. Marv Lang, our councilor, has offered to assist in this review. I'm looking for another person to work with Marv on this project. If you want to take a look, Tom maintains a copy of the bylaws on our section web site. Please let me know if you would be interested in helping out in this area.

Second, to encourage more student attendance, we have decided to email the Alembic to

the chemistry students at UWSP and UWEC. The newsletter is already available on our website as a pdf file, so Tom believes this can be done fairly easily. The Stevens Point and Eau Claire campuses were selected as we have student affiliates at each site. Concerning our April meeting, we're looking to shift locations. Our chair-elect David Thiel has graciously offered to host our April meeting in Port Edwards. We've had a meeting hosted in this area the past couple of years and it has gone over well. Thanks to Dave for agreeing to take this on. I also want to remind everyone that our annual awards banquet and spouses night is coming up in May. We're looking to shift this to the Marshfield area to make things a more central to all of our section members. Also, if you have any suggestions for nominations for awards, please email me. The award categories are listed on page 3.

I look forward to seeing you all on the 6th!

**Steve**

### ACS - CWS Mini-Directory

#### Chair

Steve Nieland  
612 West Fulton Street  
Waupaca, WI 54981  
phone (715) 258-5525 (office)  
email [sniland@gusmerenterprises.com](mailto:sniland@gusmerenterprises.com)

#### Chair-Elect

Dave Thiel

#### Secretary - Treasurer

Tip Randall

#### Councilor

C. Marvin Lang

#### Alternate Councilor

Dave Lewis

#### Newsletter Editor

Tom Zamis  
Dept. of Chemistry, UW-SP Stevens  
Point WI 54481  
phone (715) 346-3258 (office)  
email [tzamis@uwsp.edu](mailto:tzamis@uwsp.edu)

### ACS-CWS Web Page

[www.uwsp.edu/chemistry/acscws/](http://www.uwsp.edu/chemistry/acscws/)  
Up-to-date information about section activities including the **Alembic** and meeting notices. Also visit [www.chemistry.org](http://www.chemistry.org) for latest chemistry news.



“Confessions of a Bioenergy Advocate”

by

Dr. Henry R. Bungay  
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

Tuesday, March 6, 2007  
7:30pm University of Wisconsin Stevens Point  
Room A109 of the Science Building



Two decades after publication of his prize-winning book, "Energy, The Biomass Options", bioenergy is still inching toward significance. Its proponents have found major support in the U.S. Senate by touting reduction in petroleum imports, slower global warming, and converting wastes to energy. This presentation surveys the technology, assesses feedstocks, estimates the potential amount of biomass energy, and predicts economics. The bottom line is that bioenergy is commercially viable but its maximum potential contribution is about equal to the current annual increase in the world's need for power.

\*\*\*About the Speaker\*\*\*

Emeritus Professor Henry Bungay has held positions at Eli Lilly (Indianapolis) and Worthington Biochemical Corporation (Freehold, NJ), the National Science Foundation and the Department of Energy, and was a professor Virginia Polytechnic Institute and Clemson University before coming to Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. He coordinated a U.S./U.S.S.R. cooperative program for enzyme technology and has visited India, Brazil, and Indonesia as part of National Academy of Sciences teams on biomass. His honors include the James Van Lanen Distinguished Service Award and the Marvin Johnson Award from the Biotechnology Division of the American Chemical Society, and is a Fellow of the AIChE. He has over 200 publications and has authored five books including ENERGY, THE BIOMASS OPTIONS that received an award as best technical book from the American Association of Publishers.

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Prior to the meeting, a 5:30 PM mixer and dinner will be held at *Grazies* Italian Grill - 5327 Hwy 10 East (just east of the Hwy 10 exit from I-39, across Hwy 10 from Target)

After dinner, the talk will be held in Room A109 of the Science Building at the U W – Stevens Point.

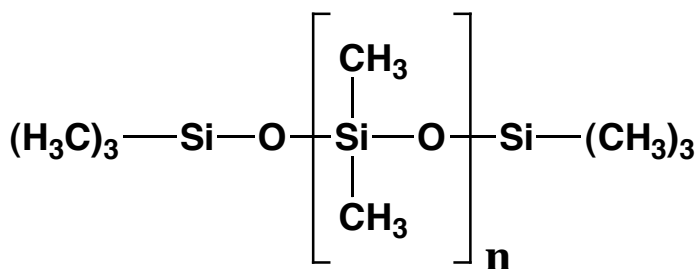
**For reservations contact Cristina Altobelli at (715)346-2888 (email: caltobel@uwsp.edu) by 5 PM on Monday March 5<sup>th</sup>.**

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## ACS - Central Wisconsin Section 2007 Meeting Schedule

DATE	LOCATION	SPEAKER	TOPIC	HOST
March 6	Stevens Point	Henry R. Bungay	Confessions of a Bioenergy Advocate	Jim Brummer
April 25	Port Edwards	Jeffrey I. Seeman	A Human Side of Chemistry: A Portrait of Contemporary Heroes	Dave Thiel
May	Marshfield		Awards Banquet and Spouse's Night	Help!
September 19	Eau Claire	Ned D. Heindel	Tinctures, Tonics, and Patent Medicines: A History of Commercialized Quackery	Dave Lewis
October 16	Stevens Point	Michael Tunick	Molecules to Mozzarella: The Chemistry of Cheese	Tom Zamis
November 7	Waupaca	Steve Nieland	Depth Filtration Media in Biopharmaceutical Production - Plant Tour and Discussion	

### Molecule of the Month



**Dimethicone, (polydimethylsiloxane, PDMS)** is the answer to dry hands as this flexible polymer with a backbone of silicon and oxygen instead of carbon, is used in most hand lotions and many cosmetics. Other uses include silly putty, silicon lubricants, silicone calk, and is used in cutting edge microfluidic devices.



### ACS-CWS Awards Categories

#### *Outstanding Service Award*

To recognize outstanding service to the Central Wisconsin Section and the field of Chemistry

#### *High School Chemistry Senior Award*

To recognize and encourage high school students who have demonstrated a high degree of self discipline and motivation in the pursuit of the science of Chemistry

#### *College Chemistry Senior Award*

To recognize significant achievement in the chemical sciences at the undergraduate level by a student who will enter their senior year in the fall of the Award year

#### *High School Chemistry Teaching Award*

To recognize, encourage, and stimulate outstanding teachers of high school chemistry within the boundaries of the Central Wisconsin Section

### American Chemical Society 233rd National Meeting & Exposition March 25-29, 2007

Chicago, IL USA

